

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus comprising:

a single solid-state image sensing element having first and second image sensing areas with substantially the same size, both the first and second image sensing areas being arranged on a single plane;

a photographing optical system that respectively forms first and second object images on the first and second image sensing areas; and

a signal processing device that processes an output signal from said image sensing element,

wherein each of the first and second image sensing areas has a matrix of a plurality of pixels arranged at a pitch a in the horizontal direction and a pitch b in the vertical direction on a light-receiving surface, the first and second image sensing areas have a positional relationship in which the first and second image sensing areas are separated $a \times h \times c$ in the horizontal direction and $b \times c$ in the vertical direction (where h is a positive integer and c is constant), said image sensing element forms first and second images which are formed to have an identical spectral distribution and have substantially the same fields of view, and said signal processing device generates a composite image signal based on the first and second images.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said signal processing device corrects a change in spacing between the first and second images during processing of an output signal, and forms a composite image signal based on the first and second images.

Claims 12-33 (Canceled).

34. (New) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the photographing optical system includes a photographing lens and a stop having a plurality of apertures, the stop being arranged in parallel with the single image sensing element.

35. (New) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the single image sensing element is a single CCD or CMOS element.

36. (New) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the single image sensing element has an image sensing surface defining the single plane and including the first and second image sensing areas.

37. (New) The apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the first and second image sensing areas have formed thereon microlenses.